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THE OLD BRIDGE at Rothenburg on The Tauber, Germany

Burleigh Paintings

Opening Sunday, Sept. 12, in the Helen Bumpus Gallery is a retrospective exhibition of the 19th century painter Charles Burleigh, Jr. The public is invited to an opening reception in the gallery from 4 to 6 p.m. In attendance will be Mrs. Winthrop Coffin, daughter of the artist, and members of her family.

Burleigh, who was born in 1848, spent five years in Europe and was influenced greatly by the Munich school of painting of the late 19th century. The Munich school, which greatly influenced the development of art, was a naturalistic movement of romantic painters reacting against academic pseudoclassicism. Burleigh's contemporaries influenced by this same movement were: William Merritt Chase, Frank Duveneck, and John Henry Twachtman.

The exhibition, which includes some newly restored paintings never shown before, has been selected by Gallery Director, Gay Youse from

Mrs. Coffin's collection of her father's works. According to Miss Youse, it is "a fine representation of his painting, his search for form and light, his intense interest in portraiture based on Rembrandt."

Burleigh, the son of abolitionist Charles Burleigh and Gertrude Kimber Burleigh, a Philadelphia Quaker, showed an early interest in art and was painting portraits at age 15. He studied art for 2 years at the Lowell Institute of Design in Boston and briefly at the Pennsylvania Academy in Philadelphia.

At the time of his marriage in 1878 to Ida Aldrich, he was able to go with his wife to Europe, financed by orders of copies of Old Masters. He continued to finance their stay in Europe by selling his excellent copies, while developing as an artist himself.

His early death in Cologne, Germany, at age 34, and his artistic attainment in this short period, leave one to

speculate on what additional years would have produced.

The exhibition, which will continue until Oct. 14, is made possible through the courtesy of Mrs. Winthrop Coffin of Duxbury. Mrs. Frank Christian will assist with the opening reception. The gallery is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.